



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

February

Rhode Island workers filed a total of 7,634 initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits in February 2005, down slightly (-0.5%) from the 7,669 initial claims filed in February 2004.

Employees with an attachment to the Accommodation & Food Services (1,142) industrial sector filed the greatest number of claims during the month followed closely by the employees of the Transportation & Warehousing (1,128) sector. The February school vacation period contributed to the high number of claims associated with these two sectors reflecting temporary layoffs in school lunch programs and school bus transportation. The Construction sector ranked third with 904 initial claims attributed in part to wintry conditions. There were also a significant number of initial claims filed by individuals with an attachment to the Manufacturing (723) sector. Together these four sectors account for over half of the initial claims filed (51.1%) in February 2005. In comparison, approximately one-quarter of the state's workforce is employed in the same four sectors.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Transportation & Material Moving (1,289) occupations and in Food Preparation & Serving occupations (1,080) filed the most initial claims accounting for nearly one-third of the February total.

Initial Claims by Industry Sectors

	Claims	Percent
Industry	7, 634	100 %
Agriculture/Forestry	20	0.3%
Mining	12	0.2%
Utilities	-	0.0%
Construction	904	11.8%
Manufacturing	723	9.5%
Wholesale Trade	173	2.3%
Retail Trade	431	5.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,128	14.8%
Information	46	0.6%
Finance & Insurance	165	2.2%
Real Estate	56	0.7%
Professional & Tech. Services	158	2.1%
Management of Companies	90	1.2%
Administrative & Waste Services	467	6.1%
Educational Services	58	0.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	425	5.6%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	85	1.1%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,142	15.0%
Other Services	165	2.2%
Public Administration	118	1.5%
Information Not Available	1,268	16.6%

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Claims	Percent
Occupation	7,634	100 %
Management	485	6.4%
Business & Financial Operations	124	1.6%
Computer & Mathematical	43	0.6%
Architecture & Engineering	65	0.9%
Life, Physical & Social Science	30	0.4%
Community & Social Services	42	0.6%
Legal	19	0.2%
Education, Training & Library	138	1.8%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	95	1.2%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	95	1.2%
Healthcare Support	154	2.0%
Protective Service	207	2.7%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,080	14.1%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	155	2.0%
Personal Care & Service	58	0.8%
Sales & Related	449	5.9%
Office & Administrative Support	671	8.8%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	22	0.3%
Construction & Extraction	610	8.0%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	185	2.4%
Production	666	8.7%
Transportation & Material Moving	1,289	16.9%
Military Specific	11	0.1%
Information Not Available	941	12.3%

There were also significant numbers of initial claims filed by workers classified in Office and Administrative Support (671), Production (666) and Construction & Extraction (610) occupations accounting for over one-quarter of the February claims.

Women filed fifty-four percent of the February claims and men filed forty-six percent. School Bus Drivers was the most often occupation cited for both men and women due to the school vacation period.

Initial Claims by Educational Level

